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June 27, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RE: Return of Mail
SN: 09/888,280

Dear Sir or Madam:

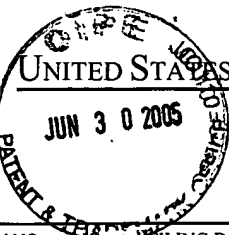
We are in receipt of an Office Action for Serial Number 09/880,280. Please note that we no longer represent this client. Therefore, we are returning the original Office Action to you.

With best regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Arthur A. Gardner
For the Firm

AAG:ah
Enclosure: original Office Action for 09/888,280



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2642
JW
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/888,280	06/21/2001	Peter Warren	4E04.1-060	8687

7590 06/16/2005

GARDNER GROFF MEHRMAN & JOSEPHIC, P.C.
Paper Mill Village, Building 23
Suite 300
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Marietta, GA 30067

EXAMINER

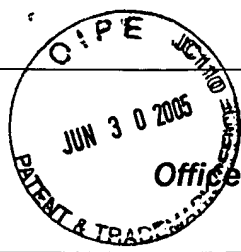
BUI, BING Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2642

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/888,280

Applicant(s)

WARREN, PETER

Examiner

Bing Q. Bui

Art Unit

2642

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 February 2005.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 17-27 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 15 and 17-22 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 23-27 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 June 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's Amendment filed on 02/03/05 has been entered. Claims 1, 8, 15 and 23 have been amended. Claim 16 has been cancelled. No claims have been added. Claims 1-15 and 17-27 are still pending in this application, wherein claims 1, 8, 15 and 23 being independent.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1-14 and 23-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

(a) Claim 1 recites the limitation "'the member" and "the connector" in line 11. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

(b) Claim 8 recites the limitation "'the member" and "the connector" in line 15. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

(c) Claim 23 recites the limitation "'the member" and "the connector" in line 11. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Art Unit: 2642

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-14 and 23-27 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

5. Claims 15 and 17-22 are allowed.

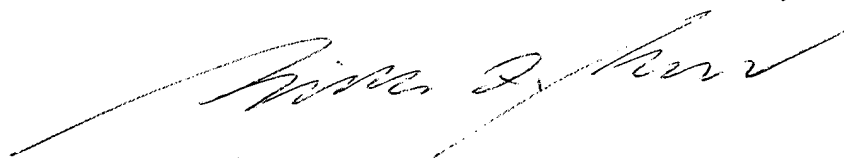
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bing Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-7482.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on (571) 272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306 and for formal communications intended for entry (please label the response ☐EXPEDITED PROCEDURE☐) or for informal or draft communications not intended for entry (please label the response "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

04 June 2005



**BING Q. BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

NOTICE OF DRAFTSPERSON'S PATENT DRAWING REVIEW

The drawing(s) filed (insert date) 06/21/01 are:

- A. ☐ approved by the Draftsperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152.
 B. ☒ objected to by the Draftsperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152 for the reasons indicated below. Corrected drawings are required.

1. **DRAWINGS.** 37 CFR 1.84(a): Acceptable categories of drawings: Black ink or Color (3 sets required).

☐ Color drawings are not acceptable until petition is granted. Fig(s) _____

☐ Pencil and non black ink not permitted. Fig(s) _____

2. **PHOTOGRAPHS.** 37 CFR 1.84(b)

☐ One (1) full-tone set is required. Fig(s) _____

☐ Photographs may not be mounted. 37 CFR 1.84(c)

☐ Photographs must meet paper size requirements of 37 CFR 1.84(f). Fig(s) _____

☐ Poor quality (half-tone). Fig(s) _____

3. **TYPE OF PAPER.** 37 CFR 1.84(e)

☐ Paper not flexible, strong, white, and durable.

Fig(s) _____

☐ Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not accepted.

Fig(s) _____

4. **SIZE OF PAPER.** 37 CFR 1.84(f): Acceptable sizes:

☐ 21.0 cm by 29.7 cm (DIN size A4) or

☐ 21.6 cm by 27.9 cm (8 1/2 x 11 inches)

☐ All drawing sheets not the same size.

Sheet(s) _____

☐ Drawings sheets not an acceptable size. Fig(s) _____

5. **MARGINS.** 37 CFR 1.84(g): Acceptable margins:

☐ Top 2.5 cm Left 2.5 cm Right 1.5 cm Bottom 1.0 cm

☐ Margins not acceptable. Fig(s) _____

☐ Top (T) ☐ Left (L)

☐ Right (R) ☐ Bottom (B)

6. **VIEWS.** 37 CFR 1.84(h)

REMINDER: Specification may require revision to correspond to drawing changes, e.g., if Fig. 1 is changed to Fig. 1A, Fig. 1B and Fig. 1C, etc., the specification, at the Brief Description of the Drawings, must likewise be changed.

☐ Views not labeled separately or properly.

Fig(s) _____

7. **SECTIONAL VIEWS.** 37 CFR 1.84(h)(3)

☐ Sectional designation should be noted with Arabic or Roman numbers. Fig(s) _____

8. **ARRANGEMENT OF VIEWS.** 37 CFR 1.84(i)

☐ Words do not appear on a horizontal, left-to-right fashion when page is either upright or turned so that the top becomes the right side, except for graphs. Fig(s) _____

9. **SCALE.** 37 CFR 1.84(k)

☐ Scale not large enough to show mechanism without crowding when drawing is reduced in size to two-thirds in reproduction.

Fig(s) _____

10. **CHARACTER OF LINES, NUMBERS, & LETTERS.** 37 CFR 1.84(l)

☒ Lines, numbers & letters not uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable, and black (poor line quality). Fig(s) 1-11

11. **SHADING.** 37 CFR 1.84(m)

☐ Solid black areas pale. Fig(s) _____

☐ Solid black shading not permitted. Fig(s) _____

12. **NUMBERS, LETTERS, & REFERENCE CHARACTERS.** 37 CFR 1.84(p)

☐ Numbers and reference characters not plain and legible. Fig(s) _____

☐ Figure legends are poor. Fig(s) _____

☐ Numbers and reference characters not oriented in the same direction as the view. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(1) Fig(s) _____

☐ English alphabet not used. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(2) Fig(s) _____

☐ Numbers, letters and reference characters must be at least 32 cm (1/8 inch) in height. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3). Fig(s) _____

13. **LEAD LINES.** 37 CFR 1.84(q)

☐ Lead lines missing. Fig(s) _____

14. **NUMBERING OF SHEETS OF DRAWINGS.** 37 CFR 1.84(t)

☐ Sheets not numbered consecutively, and in Arabic numbers beginning with number 1. Sheet(s) _____

15. **NUMBERING OF VIEWS.** 37 CFR 1.84(u)

☐ Views not numbered consecutively, and in Arabic numerals, beginning with number 1. Fig(s) _____

16. **DESIGN DRAWINGS.** 37 CFR 1.152

☐ Surface shading shown not appropriate.

Fig(s) _____

☐ Solid black surface shading is not permitted except when used to represent the color black as well as color contrast. Fig(s) _____

COMMENTS:

Reviewer SON LAM

If you have questions, call (703) 305-8404.

305-2333 (EXT. 133)

Date 06/06/05

Attachment to Paper No. _____